

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 197689

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-05 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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DRAFTED BY AF/C:JHALL DIGGS:LAR

APPROVED BY AF/C:WLCUTLER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: JAMES BROWN AND TRANSCONTINENTAL SERVICES, INC.

1. ATAKI BOLELA INFORMED AF/C SEPTEMBER 9 THAT ALL PLANS WERE SET FOR JAMES BROWN TO PERFORM IN LIBREVILLE SEPTEMBER 22 AT THE OMNISPORT STADIUM. ACCORDING TO ATAKI WHO IS DEPARTING FOR LIBREVILLE TODAY, PRESIDENT BONGO HAS WANTED THE BROWN REVUE (OF 34 PEOPLE) TO PERFORM IN LIBREVILLE FOR SOME TIME. BROWN MET WITH AMBASSADOR MAVOUNGOU YESTERDAY AT WHICH TIME VISAS AND OTHER MATTERS WERE ARRANGED.

2. DATE OF PERFORMANCE VERY NICELY PRECEDES SEPTEMBER 24 CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT IN KINSHASA WHERE BROWN IS SCHEDULED TO

PERFORM WITH OTHER CELEBRITIES. TRANSCONTINENTAL HAS NOT

YET ARRANGED ONWARD TRANSPORTATION TO KINSHASA FOR THE BROWN REVUE. THERE IS NO REGULARLY SCHEDULED FLIGHT WHICH WILL ARRIVE ON TIME. HOWEVER, UTA AND PANAM HAVE BEEN APPROACHED ABOUT CHARTER AVAILABILITIES.

3. TRANSCONTINENTAL SERVICES, INC. FORMERLY KNOWN AS VER-

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DAD, INC. IS TRYING TO RECOVER FROM THE MUHAMMAD ALI EX-HIBITION BOUT FIASCO. HOWEVER, LACK OF ATTENTION TO DETAIL A SERIOUS PROBLEM WHICH PLAGUED THE GROUP IN THEIR EARLIER

EFFORT MAY UNDERMINE PRESENT SCHEME AS WELL. IT IS ALSO HOPED THAT THE GROUP WILL AVOID TRYING TO TURN THIS EVENT INTO REGIONAL ATTRACTION AS THEY DID WITH ABORTIVE EX-HIBITION BOUT. KISSINGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
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